

HONORING MS. HATTIE R. JORDAN

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 14, 2011*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Hattie R. Jordan, the daughter of slaves who was reared on various plantations and the last one being owned by the late State of Mississippi Senator James O. Eastland. Her goal was not continue to chop and pick cotton for the rest of her life. Her goal was to get herself and her family off the plantation for a better way of life. Seven months after receiving her degree in Social Studies from Mississippi Valley State University she was able to build a house in Ruleville, Mississippi, and moved her surviving relatives, her father and sister from the plantation.

Ms. Jordan's dedication to other blacks in the Mississippi Delta to have a better life propelled her to become the first black educator to work at Rosedale High School in Rosedale, Mississippi, and be involved in the Civil Rights Movement. She joined the NAACP where she still has membership. She entered political office in 1993 as an Alderwoman for the City of Ruleville and served four terms ending in 2009.

She was and is instrumental in keeping the legacy of Ms. Fannie Lou Hamer alive. Ms. Jordan raised \$115,000 to construct the Fannie Lou Hamer Memorial Garden. Her commitment to her community has developed into sponsoring the Ruleville Scholarship fundraiser, Ruleville Employees, and Senior Citizen's Dinner, organizing Annual Back-to-School Rallies, Annual Christmas give-away for the youth of Ruleville, sponsoring Student Council Debating Teams, Senior Class sponsor, and volunteering with numerous community organizations which enhance citizens' lives.

Ms. Jordan lives by the motto: "I can do all things through Christ, which strengthen me".

Mr. Speaker I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Hattie Jordan's dedication to education and the civil rights of others. Her life has touched the lives of people both young and old.

HONORING JONAS D. BUFF FOR  
HIS SERVICE TO McDOWELL  
COUNTY**HON. HEATH SHULER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 14, 2011*

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable community leader, Jonas D. Buff. For ten years Mr. Buff served on the Board of Commissioners for McDowell County while also serving as its chairman in 1994. His dedication and commitment have brought growth and progress to McDowell County.

Mr. Buffs work to strengthen his county has included securing the location and grants to oversee the purchase of the McDowell County Industrial Park which is now home to three industries that are currently providing jobs to residents and economic development to the area. Mr. Buff also sought to recruit the State Prison facility to the county which now employs close to 400 individuals.

A strong proponent for the Nebo community owning its own water supply, Mr. Buff's advocacy helped bring about the "Nebo Community Water System." Water lines and waste management are now extended to include a greater area, servicing more residents and laying a foundation for future growth.

In addition to aiding in the county's infrastructure growth, Mr. Buff was a strong supporter of volunteer and emergency services. During his tenure, the county implemented E-911 and Emergency Medical Dispatch and two EMS Base Stations were constructed.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the dedication that Mr. Buff has demonstrated in creating positive change for his county. His legacy highlights the lasting impact each hardworking person can impart to their community.

HONORING JOAN RICHARDSON,  
COMMUNITY ACTIVIST**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 14, 2011*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Joan Richardson a long-time community activist in the Mississippi Delta, one of America's poorest regions, who has given tirelessly and selflessly to improving the lives of many who are in greatest need.

She lifts up her community not only through her generous volunteerism but through her business. Her grant writing and small-business assistance company has raised hundreds of millions of dollars in grants and government contracts to benefit the Delta region. Her company, Richardson's Writing Service in Darling, Miss., has for 20 years helped community, faith-based and other nonprofit organizations obtain grants for programs that benefit children, the elderly and others in need. She knows economic development is essential to improving life in Quitman County, where she lives, and the rest of the Delta, and works with small businesses to develop business plans and win contracts to boost the region's economy.

She is the publisher of By U Magazine, a magazine that highlights the good deeds of people in the Delta and calls on them to help their neighbors who are in need. She serves on the board of Delta Missions Outreach Ministries. She dismisses praise about her community service, saying she is only answering God's call and whatever contributions she makes is through Him.

She lives in Sledge, Miss., with her husband, Victor a GED instructor at Northwest Community College and in the Quitman County School District. Her daughter, Latricia, teaches fifth grade in the school district. She has four grandchildren: Imani, Anaiah, Akeria, and India, a goddaughter, Monisha Wade and godson, Gerard Burt.

Mrs. Richardson exemplifies how people in the Delta are building up their communities to improve life for everyone, especially those who need an extra lift up.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 100TH  
BIRTHDAY OF SISTER ELLEN  
LEDDY**HON. RICHARD E. NEAL**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 14, 2011*

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I wish to celebrate the 100th birthday of Sr. Ellen Leddy of Holyoke, Massachusetts. Below is a brief biography of Sr. Leddy and a history of her accomplishments.

Sr. Ellen Leddy, the historian of the Sisters of Providence Congregation, is the daughter of the late Edmund and Margaret (Golden) Leddy. She entered the SPs from Harvard, MA. Formerly Sister Marie de Lourdes, she served as the SPs' historical librarian in Horan Library at Providence Mother House, Holyoke, from 1982 until its closure in 1999. She was also an invaluable consultant for Seeds of Hope: The History of the Sisters of Providence, published in 1999.

She first ministered for 22 years as a registered medical technologist in laboratories at Mercy Hospital, Springfield, Providence Hospital, Holyoke, and St. Luke's Hospital, Pittsfield. She then served as local superior for Sisters attending Boston College and followed that service with nine years as director of formation for the Community's newest members.

She entered the social service and pastoral counseling fields in the late 1960s, first serving at the Municipal Home and Holyoke Day Nursery, and then at Mount Saint Vincent Nursing Home, all in Holyoke. Additional ministries included service as sacristan at Mount Saint Vincent Nursing Home, and both assistant coordinator and coordinator at Providence Mother House. She also served as a Minister of the Eucharist and Mount Saint Vincent Nursing Home and Blessed Sacrament Church, also in Holyoke.

Sister Ellen attended schools in Harvard, graduated from Mount St. Joseph Academy in Brighton and attended Fitchburg Normal School. She holds a master of arts degree in religious education from Providence College in Rhode Island and a master of education and bachelor of science in education degrees from Boston College.

She is a former member of the Catholic Theology Society, the Society of Catholic College Teachers of Sacred Doctrine, the Social Workers of Nursing Homes and Hospitals Organization in Massachusetts, and Community Workers Association of Holyoke.

She is only the second Sister of Providence of record to reach her 80th Jubilee, and lives an active lifestyle at Providence Place in Holyoke.

HONORING ANNIE PEARL SPEARS  
NICHOLS**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 14, 2011*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Annie Pearl Spears Nichols, a lifelong resident of Canton, Mississippi. Born November 20, 1944, Annie Pearl Spears Nichols attended school in the